Between the Lines

152 Madison Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.

Featuring reports on inside trends, forecasts of significant developments, and other matters pertinent to Christian thinking in the field of economics, labor, social strife, and international affairs.

CHARLES A. WELLS, *Editor*
GRACE LOZIER, *Ass't Editor*

Vol. II, No. 21 THE CHRISTIAN LAYMAN'S INFORMATION SERVICE—CONDENSED, NON-DENOMINATIONAL October 11, 1943

HOW DO WE DO IT?

Several thousand new families have been added to our list of subscribers since we last mentioned how our material is secured. We are always receiving inquiries as to how we get our hands on our information. There is no secret about it. We are proud and eager to share with you our formula of action.

Not only do we watch the large newspapers and their usual press releases, but also over our desks comes a steady stream of publications and reports from labor circles and various race organizations to tell the other side of the story. Furthermore, we have many friendly contacts within labor organizations, racial units, and government and military circles throughout America and elsewhere. We keep in touch with them for items of pertinent interest to the Christian mind. These listening posts have proven to be extremely reliable and courageous in advancing us what is often vital but suppressed items of information on developments of important trends.

Aside from this, Mr. Wells is a member of the Academy of Political Science, the National Council for Foreign Affairs, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the Foreign Policy Association and other authoritative, highly regarded research groups in the field of current history and social sciences whose reports are invaluable as sources of information such as seldom reach the average citizen.

Out of these wide contacts and constant stream of material, we send you our brief, condensed reports. Think of the hours of reading it would take for you to do this for yourself, to say nothing of the cost of subscription and postage. For $1.00 a year the benefit of all this is placed in your hands in compact, readable fashion, making your thinking the most informed and up-to-date of anyone in your community. Help us to help others by introducing them to *Between the Lines.*

Big Business Vs Post War Plans

A study of what is being done in the way of post war planning reveals a discouraging picture which concerns the future of every one of us. Big business interests are successfully selling the country the idea that post war prosperity depends upon big business' being permitted to follow its own paths of management and production. Powerful business interests in Washington have been successful in destroying or severely crippling almost every organization and agency our government has set up for economic planning for the post war period, so that on the government side there is little being done of a constructive nature by way of preparation and planning for the time when thirty-five million Americans will have to find new jobs. On the other hand, all big business is doing is to *talk* about jobs and prosperity and production.

Aside from blue prints of new products, which it is *hoped* will find a favorable buyers' response and thus it is *hoped* there will be new jobs created, positively nothing is being done in a concrete way on the part of business management to provide for the day when millions will have to find jobs—or else.

Now this true condition is being suppressed and camouflaged by the vast sums spent in advertising, pictures and publicity concerning the wonderful new world we will have when the war is over. There will be all kinds of gadgets and products galore to keep men working if we just trust big business. *Nothing, however, has been done beyond drawing the pictures.* Big business is afraid of the word "planning". Any one who talks about it is called a "communist". Yet unless some planning is done, this country will see days of severe economic chaos and social upheaval.

BUREAUCRATS AND POST WAR PLANS. It must be recognized that the bureaucracy, created by the political opportunism which has so largely ruled Washington for a good many years, has spoiled and defeated what might have been a period of far greater economic progress than we have achieved. This disease of bureaucracy is the result of men of small ability and experience being

(*Continued on next page*)

Why Shouldn't Negroes Fight?

A gathering storm that is being suppressed in the news, and which will quite likely break out later on with considerable political repercussion, is the fact that Negro troops are not being sent to the fighting fronts, despite the fact that thousands of Negro soldiers have been drafted and trained, some for as long as two and a half years.

Negro leaders are informing millions of colored citizens that the majority of their boys are not being treated with the dignity due fighting men but are being put into "engineer" battalions to do the laborious work of building roads and airfields, to act as stevedores for the unloading of supplies, and to clear away the debris left by enemy demolition squads.

Only one air squadron saw action in Africa but it has since been returned to the United States and disbanded as a unit. Of two Negro regiments, officered by Negroes and intensively trained, one has been used to guard railroads and bridges, and the other has been sent to Hawaii where there is little likelihood that it will ever see combat service.

To some Negro leaders, this circumstance is considered a particularly insulting example of racial prejudice in the armed forces for they feel it keeps the Negro soldier in a menial capacity and reflects on his courage and fighting qualities under fire. Here are glowing embers which unscrupulous men could easily fan into a hot flame of resentment and violence.

Pro British

The Christian mind can readily see the necessity of a military partnership with Great Britain in this dark hour of danger, but many Christian minds are deeply distressed by the evident fact that much of the present British leadership is using this American alliance as a means of bolstering and strengthening a system of international exploitation that is not only unchristian in principle and practice but also has been one of the chief causes of the current wars that now are involving America in their repeated holocausts.

Between the Lines is very pro-British. We are all out for the head of the Church of England, Archbishop of Canterbury William Temple, who has denounced the British imperialistic system as if it were a cancerous sore in the health of England and of the world. We are very pro-British because we are for the British labor unions and workers' organizations which are demanding a complete reform of London's colonial policy. We are pro-British because we admire and respect the forceful, far-sighted, courageous attitude of England's greatest intellectual leaders; the historian, H. G. Wells; England's prominent scientists, Julian Huxley and Lord Eddington; the man of letters, George Bernard Shaw, and many other of England's great thinkers today, the majority of whom condemn the economic piracy which has characterized so much of Europe's political history and British official attitude and action.

However, the opinions of these progressive thinkers are being suppressed today by the small group of rich, tory aristocrats who still sit on top in London, controlling the censorship.

One of the greatest injustices being perpetrated upon the American people today is the false impression British censorship is forcing on the American mind as it suppresses every voice but Churchill's and his colleagues' (as far as what reaches America is concerned), thus enforcing the impression that, to be pro-British, we must be for the slums of London, the slavery of India and the exploitation of Malay—which truly represents only a small part of what should truthfully be called England.

Big Business Vs Post War Plans

(*Continued from first page*)

put in positions of influence and power through political pull rather than through merit. Washington is full of this sort of thing and it has created the sorriest picture of wastage and blundering and mismanagement in our national history—a charge made as frequently by Democratic party leaders as by Republicans. Under the present situation the Christian citizen cannot see much chance of our government being able to recover from this blight of bureaucracy in time to meet post war needs.

IS THERE A WAY? With our government made impotent by bureaucracy and unable to lead out in progressive planning because of the fight against it on the part of business interests, and with our business and industrial leaders equally empty of definite constructive planning, in what direction, then, can the Christian citizen turn for a definite hope? Is there a practical plan for a way out of the threatened economic chaos when once more the profit motive comes in conflict with the cry of hunger and human need? You can be sure of one thing: *The veterans of this war will not meekly sell apples in the streets or rake leaves.* If a way is not opened, they will make a way by whatever means are at hand. Is there something definite the Christian can be studying, thinking about and working with? We believe there is.

CHRISTIAN COOPERATION From time to time we have reported to you concerning the growing activity and influence of the consumer cooperative movement which has now become a world wide movement, its leadership being much in the hands of Christian people. We do not want to insist that the cooperatives offer the only answer, but we believe it is one answer in the right direction. *Between the Lines* has no connection in any way with a cooperative; we pass this information to you simply as a part of our service in keeping you informed on significant and important trends. And the cooperative movement is of the highest significance for the coming years.

BIG BUSINESS SUPPRESSES AND FIGHTS COOPERATIVES We often receive letters asking why more is not known about the consumer cooperative movement, why newspapers and magazines seldom give any information. The answer is that big business interests fear the cooperatives and for over a century have fought their growth by fair ways and foul. The usual current attack is to call consumer cooperatives, communists, which is totally false and unfair. Cooperatives are as capitalistic as any big business enterprise—only a cooperative store, factory or mill is run for the profit and benefit of all those who use it and own it together instead of for one or two privileged owners. The cooperative movement might be called Christian capitalism, for it is based on the Christian philosophy of sharing.

THE CONSUMER COOPERATIVES
(FIRST ARTICLE OF A SERIES)

"Alcoholics Anonymous"

Some time ago we gave a brief report of one of the most unusual organizations in the world— Alcoholics Anonymous. We didn't tell you enough and we have found that our readers are interested in hearing more about this organization which has "chapters" scattered in almost every city in the country. At these chapters gather people who have been delivered from the ravage of acute alcoholism.

The procedure is simple. New members come frankly stating that they are incurable drunks, that they are, in themselves, helpless and must have help. There is no fuss, no hokus-pokus about it, no sermonizing or dramatics, just a use of prayer, desperate and sincere prayer, and the pledge of help from those who know the despair of utter defeat and the joy of victory.

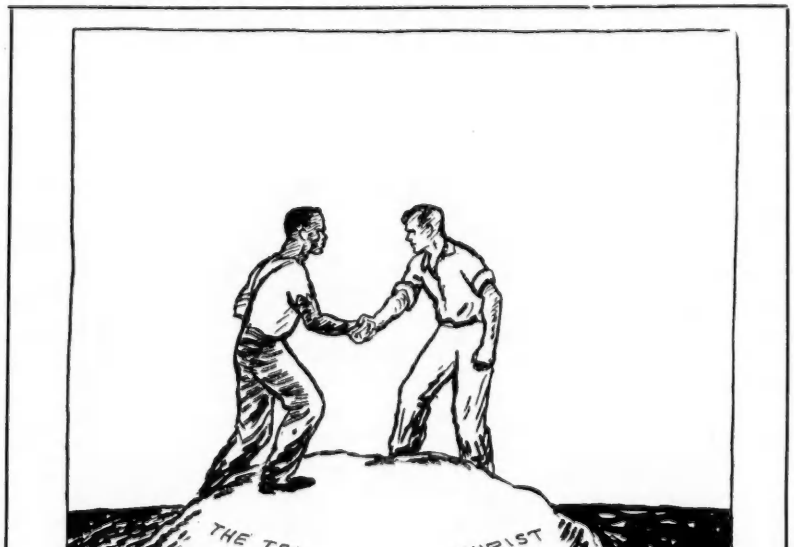
The new member pledges that he will pray and fight for relief. The others promise that they will not let go of him until he is cured. Some are rich business men, society folks, and others have little income, are ordinary working men and women—every kind is found in these circles. They never let go, they are "on call" to help each other day and night. One of the unique and effective things they do is to insist that the individual, seeking deliverence, immediately start helping someone else who is worse off than himself. It is an essential part of the cure. Said one person who was safely back on his feet, "A miracle happens when you start pulling up the other fellow who may be down a little deeper than you are. As you take hold of him, something takes hold inside of you, and prayer and a fighting spirit do the rest."

Let us add the words of a famous journalist, George E. Sokolsky, who looks at things in a cool detached way. "I sat in a room," said Mr. Sokolsky, "with 125 men and women, most of whom once were drunks—low-down, brawling, besotted drunks, objects of loathing and contempt. But these former drunks were alert, smart, friendly ladies and gentlemen, intelligent and well informed. A miracle had taken place. The devils, to use a medieval phrase, had been driven out.

"I was at an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous, that inspired realization that there are sicknesses of the soul that are even more horrible than diseases of the body and that the sicknesses of the soul can be cured, but not by the will of the individual alone, that that will must be deflated and made dependent upon a Power greater than ourselves and upon a social relationship with similarly minded and conditioned personalities.

"And I am a witness that I have seen cured souls. I have been among men and women who had wrecked their own lives and the lives of those whom they most dearly loved, but who now, recognizing their illness, have joined with others and with God, to become whole again and to do their job in this world, strong in faith and ability."

We suggest that these reports be read in the pulpits of half empty churches, where no stir or miracle of conversion and transformation of character has occurred for twenty years. Perhaps we'd discover that because the church has become proud, self-satisfied and spiritually lazy, God has been compelled to raise up these other movements to do the work He meant for the church to do.



China Not Consulted

Censorship has suppressed the fact that the appointment of Lord Mountbatten, handsome, aristocratic playboy, as chief of United Nations Indian Burma offensive, was without real consultation with the Chinese and against China's former insistant demands that a three-way military control be set up. The Chinese had asked for an American command of the Allied air forces, a British command of combined sea attack, and a Chinese command for land forces,—as soon as the attack began on Burma to open the door to China. After all, China was asking for only a third part in the leadership. China has several experienced generals, highly regarded by America's military men in Asia, and what is more important, China will be depended upon to furnish the major man power when the lines of land attack reach the China frontier.

As we have often pointed out to you concerning the European scene, the primary objective in official circles is not just to win the war, but *to win the war with the right people on top.* That comes first. The investment aristocracy must be kept on top in Europe and the white aristocracy on top in Asia.

To Make Drinking "Genteel"

Reports are reaching us that in the face of active opposition from the temperance forces of the country, the liquor industries are planning a campaign among the nation's women to counteract the increasing tendency of the country toward prohibition. Two bills now before Congresss have the liquor interests concerned for their future profits. One bill bars the sale of liquor in military camp areas, the other in areas surrounding war plants.

Heading up this new attack of the whiskey forces, is Mrs. Helen Sprackling, director of the Women's Division of the Allied Liquor Industries. "The drys are active on the national front," said Mrs. Sprackling. "They have tremendous amounts of money, raised mostly from the churches." --that, from the billion dollar liquor industry!

Mrs. Sprackling's plan of attack is along the feminine angle. She will try to persuade American women that alcohol must be the focal point of "friendly meetings." Watch out for the new note of the "gracious, cultured hostess approach." A prominent member of the world of fashion, she is out to convince the nation as a whole that drinking can be a pleasing and harmless pastime. She has laid down five rules of correct conduct for women to observe when drinking; rules, which if followed carefully, will preclude unseemly improper behavior. The appeal will be for women to set a standard of moderate drinking that men may follow —and the liquor dealers profit by.

Women will be reminded, preferably by women community leaders, of the outlawry of bootlegging, "that awful bathtub gin, and the disrespect for law and order that follows an unenforceable law,"—subtle ways to

be called Christian capitalism, for it is based on the Christian philosophy of sharing.

THE CONSUMER COOPERATIVES
(FIRST ARTICLE OF A SERIES)

Beginning with this issue, we present a series of brief, condensed articles of explanation and interpretation of the consumer cooperative movement from its beginning. Remember that these will be brief *and* condensed. *We do not have space for more than an outline of the movement. If you care to make further inquiry and study, go to your library and have the librarian look up many of the books and articles written on this subject by authorities. They are readily available in the average public library.*

We suggest that this is a rich field for discussion in Sunday school classes and church groups. It is vital and interpretive to Christian living. Keep these issues of Between the Lines *for a complete file on the cooperative movement story.*

The cooperative idea is not a new one. Primarily a plan to furnish merchandise to those who require it and who, through ownership, can operate the business and share in the profits, it was used in America by the Knights of Labor and was the salvation of many farmers in the difficult readjustment period following the Civil War. The plan originated almost one hundred years ago (1844) in Rochdale, England, at a period in the world's history when unemployment, starvation, strikes and violence were common. A great-spirited industrialist, Robert Owen, worked out the formula and a small group of desperate textile workers used it in an effort to raise their living above a starvation level. They established "Principles" which set the standard for a genuine "peoples' business". Among these principles are:

1. Membership open to all races, colors and creeds.
2. One vote for each member regardless of the number of shares of stock he owns.
3. Limited interest on capital.
4. Cash sales at market prices.

(Without close adherence to these basic rules, no organization will be admitted as a unit in the Cooperative League of the United States of America).

The Rochdale group of twenty-eight members, mustering a capital of approximately $140, opened a store to sell themselves certain staple goods like sugar, oatmeal, candles and butter. By the end of the first year, their membership had increased to sixty, and their capital investment to $900, representing a net saving of $160. By the end of the fourth year, the membership had grown to 2,000 and the capital to $75,000.

Today the cooperative world membership is around seventy million families in thirty-eight nations and its business runs into billions of dollars. The United States alone has a membership of 2,500,000 and a business of $700,000,000 a year.

SOLID GROUND

In the racial strife that has been sweeping America, the only forces which can really check the spread of violence and heal the abscesses of bitterness are Christian principles and Christian tolerance. Time and again in these stricken areas, police and civil authorities have only been able to add confusion to tumult. As the violence spreads, the only voices that seemed to have the vision and power have come from religious leaders. A show of guns and clubs does not subdue hatred. Such tactics play right into the hands of the vicious elements in our country who would use racial and social strife as the road to power. If democracy is to be more than name in America, we must turn our backs on violence and accept the principles of Christ as the foundation of our society—even in the most trying circumstances. On this solid rock we can really come to know the joy of brotherhood and thus be saved from the mass insanity which has threatened entire communities.

Hopeful Signs

Heartening signs of progress in America's race situation are reported here and there throughout the country. In almost every account of such constructive activity, the Christian forces and Christian leaders are taking an influential part.

In Illinois, the Governor, Dwight H. Green, appointed a commission of fourteen members, seven white and seven Negro, to make a survey of race problems in the state, with particular emphasis being paid to probable post war conditions and frictions. On this commission are four clergymen: The Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, Bernard J. Sheil; Dr. Martin J. Bickham, of the Chicago Church Federation; and among the Negro representatives, Harold Kingsley, pastor of the Good Shepherd Congregational Church; and Joseph M. Evans, president of the United Church Federation.

Mr. Green stated: "There is no more important task confronting our State than that of promoting harmonious understanding between the races. It is fitting that Illinois, home of Abraham Lincoln, should provide leadership for the entire nation in its approach to this difficult problem."

In New York State, a Negro was appointed to the City Court in New York County, the highest-ranking judical position ever held by a Negro in the state. Mr. Dewey made the appointment of Frances E. Rivers with the assurance of New York State Republicans that Mr. Rivers will be backed by that party for a full ten-year term in his new judicial capacity. Mr. Dewey's appointment holds good only until the end of the year.

In the South, a Council on Race Relations has been formed of twenty-two white persons and nineteen Negroes. This is a direct result of the Durham and Atlanta conferences about which we reported to you previously. A constructive program to provide leadership, "to minimize the harmful influence of irresponsible forces", and to put forth the best that modern research and knowledge can muster to alleviate and solve America's race problems, has been drawn up.

In Maryland, combined action was taken by an industry and a union to stop walkouts which occurred when Negroes were admitted to riveter's training classes. The union—CIO Marine and Shipbuilding Workers—stated, "The union will not tolerate organized work stoppages or will it allow racial discrimination. The shipyard will continue to operate for the benefit of the nation and the union will take disciplinary measures against anyone who attempts to impede this operation for any reason."

At the same time, the shipyard authorities—Bethlehem Steel Company—issued a statement saying that the riveting school would train qualified Negroes as well as white workers, and that advancement in the shipyards would depend on seniority and work "regardless of color."

women community leaders, of the outlawry of bootlegging, "that awful bathtub gin, and the disrespect for law and order that follows an unenforceable law,"—subtle ways to fight prohibition. They will also be subjected to a barrage of propaganda that they owe it to the men in uniform to keep the country wet. An example of this approach is a poster depicting a soldier with the caption: "Leave Boyd County the way I left it, please. Give me a chance when I come home."

To Mrs. Sprackling, her endeavors to keep the country the way the fighting men left it (and, incidently, the way the liquor interests *want* it) is her contribution to the war effort.

War Guilt Trial

A trial for war criminals will likely never occur because cross examination and evidence would be too apt to cause embarrassment. At the Riom trial of French leaders, the prisoners were at the opposite pole from Hitler, but so many compromising earlier statements were made by big-wigs, the trial was dropped like a hot potato. The same principle may conceivably work in reverse should the Axis be brought to trial.

Loans to Mussolini from American financial concerns in the early days of his rule are not beyond ventilation should the downfallen Duce be publicly arraigned; likewise the Anglo-Italian pact of 1925 about the partition of Ethiopia. And while the countless friends of Winston Churchill would certainly forgive him for words spoken long ago, it would cause hilarious consternation if anyone dug too deeply into history. Some British journals have been quoting Mr. Churchill's remarks on January 20, 1927, in Rome, to the Italian newspapermen: "I could not help being charmed, as so many other people have been, by Signor Mussolini's gentle and simple bearing and by his calm, detached poise in spite of so many burdens and dangers . . . If I had been an Italian I am sure that I should have been wholeheartedly with you from start to finish in your triumphant struggle against the bestial appetites and passions of Leninism." (And we wonder why Russia is standoffish a few years later!)

Continued Mr. Churchill, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, "I will, however, say a word on the international aspect of Fascismo. Externally, your movement has rendered a service to the whole world . . . Italy has shown that there is a way fighting the subversive forces which can rally the mass of the people, properly led, to value and wish to defend the honour and the stability of civilized society." Mr. Churchill is not alone in having made comments which he would doubtless like to see expunged from the record. And in a great trial, it would be hard to brush off such boomerangs in the manner of an old-time college president, who, when his early words were flung against him, exclaimed, "Don't quote that man to me!"

Germans DO Hate Naziism

Perhaps you saw the brief item in the *New York Times* about a twenty-year old Nazi who escaped from Denmark by swimming to the ferry to Sweden and letting it tow him across to freedom. This is only one of hundreds of similar stories which clearly show the disgust felt by many, many Germans for their Nazi masters.

Here are a few more presented in barest outline:

A German news source reported the execution of three German men for "defeatism".

French workers in Germany sent reports back to France of the slow-down in German war factories, instigated and constantly encouraged by German foreman.

A Swiss news source states that German bookstores are almost completely sold out, *except* for Nazi-inspired literature which stands dormant on the shelves month after month.

Belgians, recently escaped from forced labor in Germany, tell of acts of sabotage performed by German workers in Hamburg who are growing increasingly bitter against the Nazi party.

German soldiers being sent to the Russian front are said to mutiny, and a *New York Times* report tells of the refusal of crack submarine crews based in occupied Norway to leave shore.

German women are a thorn in the side of Nazidom. An official of a great German industry deplores the employment of women, stating that they are instrumental in stirring up discontent among the men. "Criminal" German women took pity on Jewish children whose parents had been sent to concentration camps. When their "crime" was discovered (that caring for the children and sending word to the parents concerning the children's welfare), they were sentenced to six years at hard labor!

According to the uncensored *Worldover Press*, the riot of German students following the execution of several of their members for anti-Nazi activities has received considerable attention. Some time ago Goebbels admitted in a radio broadcast that there had been a strike of the students in the University of Munich and that the leaders had been shot. Since then, more detailed reports of the opposition movement have reached England, and although differing as to particulars, these reports agree that the anti-Nazi organization was widespread among the German student bodies in various universities and that it was ruthlessly attacked by the authorities with executions and jail sentences, and that some, at least, of the student leaders were from "Party" families.

One of those put to death was named Hans Scholl. (You may have read Dorothy Thompson's account of him). He is said to have served at the Russian front, and to have returned home disgusted with the party and S. S. officials. With the help of his sisters, he mimeographed and distributed among the students leaflets bitterly denouncing the party and the war. The leaflets, which continue to circulate, are simple, nonpolitical, and passionate in their plea for peace and freedom.

Commenting on this German home front development, the *Economist*, a London liberal paper, comments: "If the Scholl incident is any indication of the mysterious movement of ideas in totalitarian Germany, it suggests two things—that there are already 'Haves' and 'Have Nots' among the under-thirties, the bureaucrats and officials for whom the state itself is private property, and the still younger men who are cannonfodder. It suggests, too, that the sheer horror of total dictatorship and total war is bringing with it its own antidote. The Scholl leaflets show that it will not be necessary to teach all the younger Germans to hate Naziism. The problem will be to give them something to love."

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933.

Of Between the Lines, published every two weeks at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1943.

State of New York } ss.
County of New York }

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Charles A. Wells, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor, publisher and owner of the Between the Lines, and that the following is, to the best of his knowldege and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, Charles A. Wells, 152 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.
Editor, Charles A. Wells, 152 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.
Managing Editor, None.
Business Manager, None.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)
Charles A. Wells, 152 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

CHARLES A. WELLS, Editor, Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of September, 1943.
(Notary Seal)

ETHEL B. McKAY,
Notary Public, Queens County, N. Y.

My commission expires March 30, 1945.

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